

X

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF INDUSTRIES.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" With reference to the motion passed at the meeting of the Council held on the 29th November 1923 in regard to the election of two persons to be the Council's representatives on the Board of Industries, I have to inform the House that with reference to Regulation II of the Regulations for the holding of elections by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 2 p.m. to-day as the time by which nominations of candidates should be sent to the Secretary. "

XI

MOTION ON THE MADRAS HINDU RELIGIOUS ENDOWMENTS BILL.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, I beg to move—

(1)

" That a humble and dutiful address be presented to His Excellency the Governor conveying the sense of the House that the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Bill as passed in the Legislative Council on 3rd April 1923 is against the opinion of the electorate as expressed in the recent general election and praying that His Excellency be pleased to withhold his assent to the Bill or in the alternative return it to the Council for reconsideration as provided under section 81-A, clause 1, of the Government of India Act, 1919."

(2)

" That a humble and dutiful address be presented to His Excellency the Governor conveying the sense of the House that the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Bill as passed in the Legislative Council on 3rd April 1923 is against the opinion of the electorate as expressed in the recent general election and praying that His Excellency be pleased to withhold his assent to the Bill

Or

return it to the Council for reconsideration as provided under section 81-A, clause 1, of the Government of India Act, 1919

Or

if His Excellency has already given his assent praying that he would graciously represent to His Excellency the Viceroy this Council's submission that His Excellency the Viceroy will be graciously pleased to withhold his assent to the Bill."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" In regard to the alternative motions of which the hon. Member Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti has given notice, and which he has just read out, for an address to the Governor regarding the Hindu Religious Endowments Bill, I have examined the question of their admissibility most carefully. Though as President I do not ordinarily give reasons for my rulings, I have felt, in view of the great importance of the point at issue, that I owe it to hon. Members to take them fully into my confidence and to state at some length the reasons for my decision.

" Communications from the Council to the Governor are provided by S.O. 70 which lays down that they shall be made (1) by formal address after motion made and carried in the Council, and (2) through the President. The Standing Order does not say what the matters are which can form the subject